

ONLY MATTER OF HOURS TILL ITALY IS AT WAR

General Belief Exists That Fateful Decision Cannot Be Delayed Much Longer.

NEW CONCESSIONS INADEQUATE

Military Preparations Are Complete, and While There Is Bare Possibility of Continued Peace, Even the Pacifists Have Abandoned Hope.

ROME, May 11 (via Paris).—Although negotiations with Germany and Austria still are pending—and there is a bare possibility the influence of former Premier Giolitti may avert war—military preparations pointing to Austria as an inevitable antagonist are so thorough and vigorous that a conflict seems unavoidable.

Even discussions among the opposition parties, which have ceased, only the irreconcilable Socialists, whose deputies met in the chamber to-day, still oppose Italy's participation in the war, and their attitude is believed to be guided more by a desire for consistency than because of opposition to war.

The interview between ex-premier Giolitti and King Victor Emmanuel to-day was followed by a longer one between the ex-premier and Premier Salandra.

Signor Giolitti was informed of all the negotiations that had been entered into both with the central empires and with the allied countries. This was to enable him to judge the situation in its entirety, and with the hope that parliament would be unanimous in the decision which Italy is expected to take within the next few days.

New offers are understood to have come to-day from the central empires which the Rome Cabinet still finds inadequate.

The Agency National says Emperor William has written Dowager Queen Margherita, mother of King Victor Emmanuel, pointing out advantages he believes would accrue to Italy should it remain neutral. The dowager queen is quoted as having replied to the German ruler:

"In the house of Savoy we reign one at a time."

Emperor William is reported to have previously written an almost identical letter to the Italian king.

The Milan Secolo says Italy demanded the integrity of Serbia and Belgium as a condition of its neutrality; and that this was one of the chief causes of delay in the conversations.

PREPARED TO PROTECT PRINCE VON BUELOW

PARIS, May 11.—The Milan correspondent of the Excelsior transmits a Secolo dispatch from Lugano, Switzerland, saying the police of Lugano have been instructed to make preparations to protect Prince von Buelow, German ambassador to Rome, when he passes through that city on his way home.

A Milan dispatch from Udine to the Havas Agency says trains arriving from Austria are filled with Italian travelers. Hundreds are waiting at the Trieste railroad station for places on trains.

Another version of the territorial concessions Austria is said to have proposed to Italy has been printed by the Mattino of Naples and telegraphed to the Havas Agency. According to this report, Austria is willing to cede part of Trent to Italy, together with a strip of territory in the region of the Isenno River, which empties into the Gulf of Trieste. Trieste itself is absolutely excluded, as well as Istria and Pola.

The Italian Cabinet is said to have considered these concessions insufficient and made a counterproposal demanding all of Trent up to Brenner, together with Trieste and Istria, including Pola.

The Havas correspondent says the Italian government has demanded of Vienna a definite answer within a fixed time. He adds that in the best informed circles there is no real hope of a peaceful settlement, although Pope Benedict has sent Emperor Francis Joseph an autograph letter asking him to yield, in order to avoid another war.

BELIEVED THAT WAR IS MATTER OF HOURS

ON THE ITALIAN FRONTIER, May 11 (via Paris).—The opinion prevails in Rome that Italy's participation in the war is only a question of days.

Along the Austrian frontier, where the correspondent of the Associated Press has been from one end of the line to the other, it is universally felt that war is a question only of hours. Nevertheless, there still is a party which hopes for peace. Its leader, one of the most influential statesmen of Italy, lives near the frontier, and although he declined to allow himself to be quoted by name for fear his words would be misunderstood as an endeavor to create obstacles for the present Cabinet, he declared in an interview to-day that the Cabinet "must be supported by all Italians even if it makes mistakes."

Continuing, the party leader said: "Italy, so far as possible, must remain faithful to her treaty with the central empires. They allowed her to remain neutral, but not to pass to the opposite camp. Whatever examples may be brought forward of the violation of international agreements, it is neither noble nor honorable for any country to commit such violation without very grave motives."

"Italy would not have a sufficient motive to cast off her ancient allies if Austria would cede her territory inhabited by Italians. Such cession could be considered a tardy compensation for the irregular annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina."

GREATEST OBSTACLE IS FOUND IN TRIESTE

"The greatest obstacle is Trieste, as an accord on the remainder of the questions easily could be reached. It must be borne in mind that Trieste is the only outlet of Austria-Hungary and Germany to the Adriatic. If Italy took Trieste by force, she would be obliged constantly to defend it against the pressure of the entire Austro-German world. If Trieste were organized into a free city administered by her Italian citizens and protected against any possible attempt on her nationality, Italy might be satisfied to receive the remainder of Italian territory now under Austrian administration."

"Once the reason of the antagonism between Italy and Austria is removed, the elimination of Austria would be of no advantage to Italy. If Austria-Hungary disappeared, Italy would be in contact with the Slav world, which

is more powerful and more to be dreaded than our present neighbor on the east. The necessity of Austria-Hungary as a bulwark against the Slavs has been implicitly recognized by Great Britain and France. These powers, although at war with Austria-Hungary, never have undertaken any serious military action against her. Furthermore, I believe this feeling certainly would increase if Emperor Nicholas, rising to the same height as did Peter the Great, could accomplish the occupation of Constantinople. From Constantinople the Emperor of Russia could threaten the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal and the Persian Gulf, a situation which would revive the old antagonism between Great Britain and Russia."

"These are the principal reasons why Italy, unless it cannot be helped, should not break her treaty with Germany and Austria-Hungary, a treaty which expires in 1917."

ITALIANS ARE ORDERED TO REJOIN REGIMENTS

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, May 11 (via Paris).—All Italian officers and men in Switzerland up to the age of thirty-four were ordered yesterday to rejoin their regiments immediately.

Austrian and Bavarian forces are concentrating in the Tyrol. Automobiles belonging to the Italian royal family, which had been assembled at Nonth, near Milan, were sent to Verona yesterday for use of the army.

Freight shipments from Italy to Germany through Swiss territory have virtually ceased. Italian passenger train service to points on the Swiss frontier is diminishing daily. Switzerland is concerned over the question of food supplies in case Italy enters the war.

FRENCH THREATENING LINES OF GERMAN ARMY

(Continued from First Page.)

east of that town, the Germans continue to attack the British lines, and again are using gas and a tremendous amount of artillery, but, according to the British version, without making any impression.

Further south, as far as Arras, the French continue their offensive, and have made material progress, capturing a number of Germans, with guns and machine guns.

Great importance is attached to the French operations, as it threatens the German lines of communications on the Oise and the Aisne. The battle doubtless will not be decided for days.

According to the French report, the Germans, their railway lines having been damaged by allied airmen, have brought up re-enforcements by motor. These have been met by the concentrated fire of the French artillery. In fact, the artillery is becoming more and more the determining factor in the war.

Around Ypres, the Germans, before launching their attacks, which have been delivered on successive days, thoroughly searched the ground with heavy and light guns, subjecting the British to a bombardment such as they themselves received at Neuve Chapelle.

Officers and men who have escaped from it state that the trenches were utterly destroyed and the ground churned up by the shells. Nevertheless, the British found some kind of shelter, and moved down the German infantry when it tried to advance.

NO SIGNS OF GERMAN ATTACKS SLACKENING

There are no signs of the German attacks slackening. The Germans are reported to be concentrating more forces in Belgium, ready to take the place of or support those on the flying line. Indeed, many believe that the biggest effort yet undertaken to reach

the French coast ports is now under way.

The Russians are making desperate efforts to stop the Austro-German onrush in Western Galicia, and are fighting stubborn rear-guard actions, in an endeavor to hold the German allies until re-enforcements can come up. Despite the serious reverse they have suffered in the western part of the province, the Russians continue attacking in Eastern Galicia and along the eastern section of the Carpathians.

At the other end of the line, in the Baltic provinces, the Russians apparently have brought up a force sufficiently strong to drive back the German raiders threatening Mitau. Seemingly, they are leaving the Germans in undisputed possession of Libau for the present.

VANDERBILT'S BODY IS REPORTED FOUND

(Continued from First Page.)

side men of German birth, whether naturalized or not. In many towns premises occupied by Germans have been damaged or destroyed, and even the exchange in London and provincial towns are harring the doors to persons of German blood.

There have been riots in Liverpool, Manchester, Salford and Birkenhead. In Liverpool Germans have been interned, and those who are naturalized subjects of Great Britain have been advised to go to interior towns or seek internment. Many have decided on internment.

Newspapers demand that all the 25,000 Germans still at large should be similarly treated.

Deputations from the Stock Exchange, the Baltic Exchange, Lloyd's and the Corn Exchange, after a meeting to-night on the steps of the Royal Exchange, marched to the House of Commons and presented a petition to the attorney-general, which called attention to the grave danger that exists by allowing alien enemies to remain at large in the country.

A public meeting will be held at the Mansion House on the subject of alien enemies. It will be the forerunner of meetings of protest all over the country.

Before the adjournment of the House of Commons to-night, Sir Henry Dalziel urged the government to intern all alien enemies, while Lord Charles D'Essexford expressed the view that "unless some definite policy were adopted, there would be serious doings in the country."

Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition in the House, also spoke of the seriousness of the situation.

H. J. Tennant, Under-Secretary for War, said the matter would be considered by the Cabinet to-morrow and a statement made to the House of Commons on Thursday.

BLAME AMERICAN SHRAPNEL

Germans Say It Is Cause of Their Failure to Advance.

NEW YORK, May 11.—"If it had not been for American-made shrapnel, we would now be in Dunkirk and Calais. We would have smashed Verdun, and we would have captured Paris this spring."

This is the cry heard on every hand in Germany, according to James A. Nelson, an ordnance expert of Brooklyn, who returned to-day on the Royal Italian mail liner Duc D'Aosta.

The feeling against Americans in Germany to-day is second only in bitterness to that against the English, Mr. Nelson said.

German military experts, he declared, candidly confess that the American shells used by the allies are the best ever turned out. The Germans figure, he said, that the American shells are 50 per cent efficient, the French 50 per cent, the English 40 and the Russian 30.

GERMANS PUT TO FLIGHT BY RUSSIAN CAVALRY

Chase Continues for Forty Miles, and Division Is Practically Annihilated.

OTHER FORCES HARD PRESSED

Petrograd Admits That Recent Retirement in Galicia Looks Discouraging, but Thinks Judgment Should Be Reserved for Present.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]

PETROGRAD, May 11.—Their Nemesis has overtaken the German raiders in the Kovno government.

One body of the enemy's cavalry, which penetrated the neighborhood of Poneviesh, has been placed in a difficult position, by the double advance of the Russians to the south of Mitau, and from northeast along the Ulna-Libau railway. This German force consisted of a Bavarian cavalry division, supported by a regiment of the Prussian Guard infantry. Finding its retreat threatened, it attempted to break through near Shelnay, about twenty miles northeast of Kovno. Here its advance guard came in contact with the Russian cavalry.

Finding itself outnumbered, it fell back on the main body, which was unable to effect anything like a check of the pursuit by the Russians. Soon the battle became a desperate flight by the Germans, and a hot and determined chase by the Russian horsemen. For forty miles the latter clung close to the heels of the flying foe, not drawing rein until the division, to all intents and purposes, was destroyed. The losses of the Germans undoubtedly were very great.

It is positively asserted that the general situation in the Kovno government is now such that the Germans can hope to maintain themselves only in the valley of the Dubizka, where they are entrenched in the neighborhood of Rosnienny and along the coast as far as Libau, where their naval guns are covered by their naval guns.

In Western Galicia, the Russians have been compelled by superior numbers to fall back some distance. They now hold the line of the River Wislocka, a tributary of the San, except in the neighborhood of Krosno, where the Austro-Germans have succeeded in effecting a breach in their position.

It is believed that the Austro-German armies under command of General von Mackensen hope to break through into the heart of Galicia by the Krosno-Sanok railway. The Russians still have in their hands the main routes of the Carpathians from Lypkows Pass to Kosiuvka.

Though this latest Russian statement looks rather discouraging, there probably never was a time since the beginning of the campaign, when it was more necessary to reserve judgment until the final issue of events.

The enemy obviously is making a desperate effort to achieve some definite result before conditions arise against which it would be hopeless to struggle.

The circumstances which have caused the Russian offensive to be deferred are of a permanent character and the situation probably will bear a totally different appearance at the end of another couple of weeks.

It is stated in military circles that considerable importance is attached to the Russian advance across the Dniester to the northeast of Kolomoia. This movement constitutes a serious threat to the group of the enemy operating in the district of Czernowitz.

Negro Dies on Wagon

Robert J. Satterwhite, a negro seventy years old, died while sitting on his wagon, on Ninth Street between Cary and Canal, about 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Coroner Taylor was notified, and was of the opinion that the death was due to natural causes. The body was taken to the man's home, 1201 Chaffin Street, by Undertaker Price.

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